

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, the applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Accordingly, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues, or believes that some or all of the claims are not in condition for allowance, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned to schedule a telephone Examiner Interview before any further actions on the merits.

The applicants will now address each of the issues raised in the outstanding Office Action.

Objections

The title is objected to as not being descriptive. The title has been amended to be more indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this objection.

Claims 2 and 6-11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. A patentable feature from claim 2 has been deleted from claim 2 and added to claim 1. Since claims 2 and 6-11 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1, these claims are in condition for allowance.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 3-5 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,816,917 ("the Yamamoto patent"). Claims 1, 3-5 and 12 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,788,340 ("the Chen patent"). The applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw these grounds of rejection in view of the following.

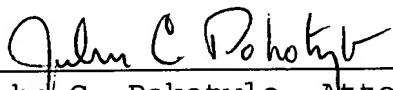
Independent claims 1, 5 and 12, as amended, are neither anticipated by the Yamamoto patent, nor the Chen patent, because neither of these patents disclose a noise suppressing circuit or unit which suppresses a reset variation for each pixel. This feature was taken from claim 2 which was found to include allowable subject matter. Thus, claims 1, 5 and 12, as amended, are neither anticipated by the Yamamoto patent, nor the Chen patent, for at least the foregoing reason. Since claims 3 and 4 depend from claim 1, these claims are not anticipated for at least the same reason.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the applicants request that the Examiner pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on **January 20, 2006** with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



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